





Pan-Am demands end to 'unfair' Concorde competition

By Tony Samstag

Pan American World Airways has accused the Government of unfair competition in its Concorde fare structure and has asked the American authorities to suspend those fares.

British Airways denied yesterday that its Concorde flights on the Atlantic route were unfairly subsidized. It added: "Concordes are making a useful contribution to profits. The fares are certainly not below cost."

Pan-Am's complaint, filed on Tuesday with the US Civil Aeronautics Board, alleges that British Airways has been allowed to set fares "virtually at part with first class fares on subsonic aircraft" on its routes between London and New York and Washington.

Concorde's operating profit, which British Airways estimates at about £10m this year, is made possible in large part by savings in capital cost. The airline was in effect given seven Concordes by the Government after an Anglo-French development project to which this country paid £900m.

This year's profits, about 80 per cent of which are to be paid back to the Government, have benefited from a variety of charter contracts, including a recent £5.5m deal with Cunard for a combination package with cruises on QE2.

Mr Kenneth Warren, Conservative MP for Hastings and Rye and an aviation expert, said yesterday: "Pan American had an equal chance with British Airways to operate Concorde and it cancelled the order. I have never known Pan American to be slow at discounting tickets, particularly when it was waging war against Laker."

British Airways, which cut the price of 100,000 Enterprise holidays before Christmas to make them on average 11 per cent cheaper than for this summer, reacted yesterday to the latest moves in the holiday price war by restating a pledge to match any competitor's price.

Mr Alan Waddell, general manager of British Airways tour operations, said: "We will not be undersold. We are confident that our prices are the cheapest for those holidays we have in common with Thomson and Intasun. If anyone finds an identical holiday to one of ours sold through a travel agent by any other operator, we will match that price."

British Airways is also increasing travel agents' commission by 1 per cent, to 11 per cent, until March 31 "to protect the retail trade from the serious financial effects the price war could have on them".

CONCORDE AND ITS RIVALS

Table comparing Concorde, First Class (subsonic), and APEX fares to New York, Washington, and London.

Building boom for private houses

By John Young

Private house-building is enjoying its best period since the mid-1970s, and the market should remain buoyant next year, according to the latest figures from the National House-Building Council (NHBC) and two leading building societies.

Mr Andrew Tait, director general of the NHBC, said yesterday that new building starts this year were estimated at 170,000, the best for more than 10 years. Completions were 24 per cent up, at 152,000, the highest for seven years.

There were now 100,000 more jobs in private housing than three years ago, helping to compensate for losses in other parts of the construction industry, he said.

Among the reasons for the expanded market were the building of smaller units and the introduction of financial packages that made it easier for first-time buyers to meet the initial payments.

Predictions for next year were complicated by uncertainty over United States interest rates and an adequate supply of building land. But underlying potential demand remained strong as more people set up new homes in smaller households.

The best guess was that both starts and completions in the private sector should exceed 150,000, and more if interest rates fell.

Average house prices are estimated by the Nationwide Building Society to have risen by 12 per cent. The Leeds Permanent puts the figure somewhat lower at 9.4 per cent, but both societies point out that the increase is well above the rate of inflation.

Nationwide calculates that the average price of a home at the end of this year was £28,720, and the average mortgage advance £20,030. But there were wide variations between regions, increases ranging from 16 per cent to 18 per cent in London and the South-east to 7 per cent in Wales and Northern Ireland.

Index the house price index is nearly three times that of 10 years ago, it has increased more slowly than the retail price index.

But Mr Malcolm Hughes, the society's general manager (market planning), said yesterday that he expected house prices next year to continue to catch up with their long term relationship with average earnings.

Drink-drive worry for police chief

Strathclyde police have caught more drinking drivers without a Christmas purge than other forces which have stopped and breathalysed up to 10 times as many motorists.

Over the past five days they have carried out 96 positive tests and 29 negative ones. By comparison, the Derbyshire force, which had a Christmas clampdown, recorded 53 positive tests and 935 negative ones over 12 days. In Derbyshire last year 105 of 1,479 tests were positive.

An Automobile Association official said: "We are delighted that so many people have taken the advice not to drink if they are driving."

But Mr Alistair Petrie, Assistant Chief Constable of Strathclyde, said he was disappointed that such a high proportion of motorists in his area had ignored the advice. "We do not run purges, but over the festive season we do keep a high profile," he said. Motorists stopped for traffic offences or after accidents were tested if they were suspected of drinking.

Mr Petrie said he could not predict how many more motorists would have been caught if there had been a purge, but he hoped that more drivers would leave their cars at home for the new year celebrations.

Figures from several other forces show a reduction in the proportion of positive tests.



Tea and sympathy: Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, handing out hot drinks to homeless people at a warehouse in Vauxhall, south London, yesterday.

Sightseeing in England

Pleasure parks grow in popularity

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

New tourist attractions, from heritage centres to adventure rides in mechanized pleasure parks, kept up the number of sightseers in 1982 despite a drop in popularity of longer established attractions, according to an English Tourist Board report published yesterday.

Where admissions were charged the next most popular attractions were Madame Tussaud's (1.9 million) and Alton Towers (1.6 million). Alton Towers, on the edge of the Potteries and strongly influenced by Disneyland, has several adventure rides, including a double corkscrew roller coaster.

The appeal to young adults has widened the attraction of leisure and amusement parks when a birthrate reduction could have affected them in line with the decline in visits over the past six years to wildlife parks, the survey suggests.

Heritage centres, of which a score have opened since Chester pioneered the idea in 1975, are benefiting from an increase in general sightseeing in historic towns, the survey says. The Tudor wreck, Mary Rose, which museums and galleries accounted for 51 million; historic buildings 48 million; wildlife attractions 16 million, and gardens more than seven million.

Call for immediate ban on 'risk' drugs

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

The delay in banning "potentially hazardous" cold remedies from sale in chemist shops without prescriptions was putting many people at risk, Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South, said yesterday. He called for the immediate withdrawal of the products.

However, the Department of Health and Social Security said that its plan to limit the remedies 12 months from now was "purely a precautionary measure" and that there was no cause for concern. The department has written to drug manufacturers asking them to reduce the content of phenylpropanolamine (PPA), an ingredient that helps to dry runny noses, in their products.

£100 fine for smoking in court

A man was fined £100 for contempt of court yesterday after he lit a cigarette in the public gallery at West London Magistrates' Court.

The magistrate, Mr Eric Crowther, had ordered Stephen Miles, aged 19, a warehouse manager, of Westbury Road, Ealing, west London, to be arrested as he waited for his brother to appear on a charge of using threatening behaviour.

Teacher fights council for job

A High Court judge gave leave yesterday to a teacher to challenge her dismissal from Orleans infants' school by Richmond upon Thames Borough Council in south-west London and to seek an order directing the council to allow her to teach in a suitable school.

Troubled passenger predicted last cruise

By Kenneth Gosting

Mr Eric Wright, who disappeared with his wife, Olive, on a Christmas sea trip, told a family friend, the Rev John Rees, the night before leaving: "This will be the last cruise I take on the QE2."

The couple vanished from the ship on Christmas night, leaving a note in their cabin. Both had appeared happy that day and joined in the celebrations, but they failed to appear for Christmas dinner or for breakfast the next day and the alarm was raised.

Stores seek ways to curb £1bn vandalism

By a Staff Reporter

The year just ending has seen a wave of damage to and theft from shops that, according to one estimate will have cost Britain's stores £1,000m.

One London company that supplies vandal-proof materials has completed a survey which shows, according to its sales director, Mr Tom Ellison, that the past year has shown an even greater increase in the problem than in previous years.

Spray-can graffiti are still much in evidence and sharp instruments are being used to damage shopfronts and interior fittings.

The findings of the company, Rigidized Metals, which sent its salesmen to carry out interviews in 200 stores, are borne out by Lady Phillips, director of the Association for the Prevention of Theft in Shops. She is supporting a private member's Bill on trespass to be introduced in the House of Lords.

"It's so amusing to me to read about the problems of shoplifting by poor little old ladies when you know what things are really like," she said. "I believe the Bill, which would make trespass a criminal offence, would help this problem."

There is a fear that things are getting worse. Mr Anthony Edwards, a spokesman for Rigidized Metals, said. One leading store group, he said, had even formed a psychiatric department to look at ways of keeping shoppers happy.

Video phone promised

Video stream, will also be introduced next year.

The equipment is bulky, so British Telecom expects the service to appeal to business rather than personal users.

In a new year message to customers and staff, Sir George said that 1984 would go down as the year when the communications system of the twenty-first century began to take shape.



Chess mastery (left to right): Lev Alburt, a Russian emigrant to the United States where he is rated number two; Britain's Nigel Short, now aiming for Grandmaster; and Gyula Sax, the Hungarian number three, at the start of the 59th International Chess Congress in Hastings yesterday (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

BBC poll 'open to lobbying'

By a Staff Reporter

The BBC poll which made Mgr Bruce Kent man of the year and Mrs Margaret Thatcher woman of the year could have been the subject of a most clever lobby, Mr Julian Holland, the editor of the radio programme, Today, which organized it, said yesterday.

The poll of Today listeners was based on "a few thousand post cards" after a small number, from an obvious lobby in favour of a candidate Mr Holland declined to name, were rejected.

but Conservatives will vote for Margaret Thatcher. "What we have to try to do is discourage the organized lobby, where people who are not listeners to the programme spoil everyone's fun."

Mr Holland refused to disclose the margin of Mgr Kent's lead over the man in second place Mr Eddie Shah, the proprietor of the Stockport Messenger newspaper. If we were to give people an idea of the difference on the votes it would then make the lobbyists' task easier.

Leading article, page 11

BBC rabbit vivisection report criticized

By David Hewson

A complaint against the BBC by Sheffield University has been partly upheld after a television programme aired allegations that stolen pet rabbits were used for vivisection experiments in a university laboratory.

The Forty Minutes documentary Rabbits Don't Cry, broadcast on October 21 last year, reported that a stolen pet had been found at Lodge Moor laboratory and was later reunited with its owner. The director of the laboratory had refused to be interviewed on the programme, but the BBC accepted that the university was innocent of the theft.

However, the Broadcasting Complaints Commission has ruled that the programme implied that on other occasions stolen pets would have been found at the laboratory.

"As the university were given no opportunity to rebut the allegations, the commission have no doubt that viewers could have concluded from the programme that the university stole, or used, stolen pets. This was unfair", the commission's adjudication, published today, says.

The university complained that undue prominence was given to placards and comments from protesters alleging that stolen pets were used, through, after some of the protesters had been allowed into the laboratory, the presenter concluded: "The protesters found no evidence of stolen pets at Lodge Moor on this visit."

The commission did not uphold the university's complaint that the filming of the protesters was unfair.

But the adjudication adds: "By bringing the incident of the released pet into the programme, however, the BBC had raised the issue of pet stealing and the validity of the argument whether or not the university either stole or used stolen pets became a major issue."

The commission accepted that the programme producer believed from her research that the released pet had been stolen, but it was not satisfied on the evidence presented to it that the case had been proved.

Postal Services in London W12

The three-week postal strike in the W12 district of London is now over and mail addressed to the area is being delivered.

It will take some time to deal with the huge backlog of mail caused by the dispute. However, the Post Office is giving as normal service as possible to newly posted items, while simultaneously tackling the large backlog.

The Post Office apologises to customers for the inconvenience caused to them by this dispute.

The Post Office

of public 10 years

Marina

# Israel reviews Lebanon policy in attempt to cut casualty list

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

A sweeping review of Israel's security policy in southern Lebanon is being conducted by military chiefs and new proposals aimed at cutting down the continuing high rate of Israeli casualties are due to be presented to the government for approval early next year.

Lieutenant General Moshe Levy, the Chief of Staff, claimed yesterday that the continuing presence in southern Lebanon remained vital for the security of Israel's northern border.

road to the city along the coast is now known to disgruntled Israeli soldiers as "bomb alley". Army officers acknowledge that opinion is divided about the desirability of a second withdrawal southwards.

## Arafat to convene Fatah talks in Tunis

Tunis (AFP) - Mr Yasser Arafat is expected here tonight to convene a meeting of the leadership of Fatah, the divided Palestinian Liberation Organization's leading component.

## Beirut tries to save fragile truce

Beirut (Reuters) - A fragile truce between the Lebanese Army and Shia militiamen held for the second day yesterday as a special security committee met in an effort to devise a lasting peace.

Official sources said the ambassadors had assured him that their forces would remain as long as the Lebanese Government needed them.

## Assad fear allayed by editor

Paris (NYT) - A French magazine editor, who interviewed President Hafez al-Assad of Syria last week said the President had told him he was conversing but had not specified the nature of his illness.

## Fred Zimbabwe officers on their way home

The last three Zimbabwean Air Force officers of the group detained over aircraft sabotage are due to fly out of here tonight on one-way tickets.

Seven officers were originally detained and six brought before the High Court. After their acquittal and subsequent re-detention three, including Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slater - former Deputy Commander - were allowed to leave the country.

## Grenada visit seen as Strauss manoeuvre

Among the many diplomatic and political coups of Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the ambitious Prime Minister of Bavaria, his unexpected visit to Grenada must count as one of his cleverest attempts to influence German foreign policy while increasing his party's weight in the Bonn coalition and his own visibility on the world stage.

pointedly emphasized his approval of American actions in Grenada.

# Iran's economy under strain

Oil repairs ravages of war and ideology

By Richard Dowden

"One pound and a half, one thousand rial, very cheap", said the Tehran shopkeeper, a rather dependent old man with a small of cheap jewelry.

"But a pound is only 130 rials", I said, puzzled.

"You change it on black market you get 700 rial, maybe more", said the shopkeeper.

"Would you take British pounds?" I asked.

"No, it's too dangerous, but many people will."

We broke off negotiations. A combination of shortages, inflation and very strict controls on foreign currency has given the Iranian economy some peculiar twists.

Prices tend to follow the black market price for the dollar, so that anyone buying in Iran with money changed at the official rate pays about seven or eight times the real price. Foreign currency and imported goods are in great demand but penalties for black marketeering are fierce.

Basic foodstuffs are rationed and cheap but on the black market prices are erratic. For example, every family is entitled to 6 kilos (13lb) of rice per week at 190 rials per kilo (about £1.50). On the black market rice has sometimes reached 1,100 rials a kilo.

Ration cards are distributed by the mosques, which gives the mullahs some political power but also means that they will be blamed if things go wrong. There have already been reports of mullahs being attacked by angry crowds accusing them of corruption.

The three-year-old Gulf War, which soaks up a third of the national income, has imposed considerable hardship on the people, but their expectations have been lowered by a blood, sweat and tears attitude, and the Government presents the hardship as sacrifice for the war effort.

Considering the earthquakes that the Iranian economy has suffered in recent years it is in remarkably good shape. The revolution in 1979, bringing in a strongly ideological government which caused a flight of capital and skilled manpower, followed by the Iraqi attack in 1980, would have devastated most economies.

The Khomeini regime is, however, far more pragmatic in some matters than its rhetoric would suggest. It has managed to keep the oil flowing, and is now beginning to revitalize the development of the country's vast mineral resources.

Iran is exporting at least 1.7 million barrels of oil a day, and could produce more if gas injection was used in some of the wells. Its foreign debt has been paid off, and it now has reserves estimated at about \$6bn (£4.3bn).

The strict import controls imposed because of the war have hampered development and shortages have created an inflation rate of between 20 and 40 per cent. Unemployment is running at between three and four million, or about 20 per cent of the workforce.

The Government is trying to bring down unemployment by boosting oil-based industries and reviving agriculture. Foodstuffs are now the second biggest import item after war materials.

But the main economic problems facing the Government have political roots. The first is the power of the *bazarris*, the traditional merchant families ranging from street sellers to big importers.

According to Islam, while ostentation and extravagance are discouraged, wealth as such is not. The rich man is supposed to support his poorer brethren by *zakah*, gifts to the poor. The Government hopes that somehow the rich will be devout enough to distribute their wealth for the good of the community.

Meanwhile, the bigger *bazarris* are making more money than they did under the Shah, and their inclination is to get it transferred into dollars and out of the country as fast as they can. Failure to come to terms with their wealth and power could cost the Government the support of its younger revolutionaries, who are inspired by ideals of social justice.

The second problem comes with the plan to Islamize the economy. There is no working model of an Islamic economy, and the Government is trying to abolish bank interest in accordance with the Koran's prohibition on usury.



All in favour: Members of the Politburo voting during a meeting of the Supreme Soviet (front left to right): Andrei Gromyko, Konstantin Chernenko, Nikolai Tikhonov; (second row): Grigory Romanov, Viktor Grishin, Mikhail Gorbachov; (third row): Boris Ponomarev (candidate member), Dinmukhamed Kunayev, Mikhail Solomentsev, and three unnamed in the back row, one with voting rights.

# Symbols of continuity at Supreme Soviet

There was none of the mild excitement which gripped the Supreme Soviet this time last year, when the 1,500 deputies not only raised their hands in automatic approval of party resolutions but also studied the *Pravda* text of the new leader's first speech and stared at him sitting on the platform.

Further along in the front row were Mr Konstantin Chernenko, Mr Andropov's white-haired rival, and two more symbols of continuity: Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Minister.

Staff, walked about the hall in uniform, gripping deputies' elbows and holding deep discussions, possibly on President Reagan's anxieties about "belligerent statements" by "top Soviet military leaders".

As fresh falls of snow drifted past the high windows of the Great Hall, most deputies chatted, dozed or reread Mr Andropov's Monday speech, in which he said Russia's production included 500,000 television sets, 115,000 radios and 250,000 cameras, which did not work.

## Summing up begins in Simonstown spy trial

The Judge-President of the Cape, Mr Justice G. G. A. Munnik, yesterday began delivery "in camera" of his judgment in the Cape Supreme Court in one of South Africa's most sensational spy trials. His verdict is expected today.

## Museum doubles its space

New York (NYT) - The Museum of Modern Art will close next Wednesday for four months to complete the \$55m (£36m) expansion and renovation project that began in the autumn of 1980.

## Talbot workers asked to end sit-in

Talbot, the French car company, yesterday asked unions and workers to obey a court order ending a sit-in at the giant plant at Poissy, near Paris. Up to 500 workers, more than half of them foreign-born, have been occupying the plant since before Christmas to protest against

## Polish congress

Warsaw (Reuters) The Polish Communist Party is to hold in March its first full-scale meeting since an emergency congress in 1981 at the height of the Solidarity challenge.

## Boy accused

Nairobi (Reuters) - A five-year-old boy has appeared in court at Eldoret, western Kenya, accused of murdering another five-year-old, who died after being hit on the head with a blunt object.

## Bangladesh polling suspended after riots

Dhaka (Reuters) - Voting in at least 17 rural election centres across Bangladesh has been suspended after at least 150 people were injured in clashes between supporters of rival candidates.

## Hard labour for Estonians

Stockholm - Ten Estonians have been sentenced to between eight and 15 years' hard labour by the Tallin High Court, an exile organization in Stockholm said.

## Liberian coup trial adjourned

Abidjan (Reuters) Nineteen people have appeared before a Monrovia military tribunal charged with high treason in connection with a plot to overthrow General Doe, the Liberian leader.

## Seoul scandal

Seoul (Reuters) A former South Korean Cabinet minister found guilty of accepting bribes has been sentenced to seven years in jail and fined £70,000.

## US meat ban

Washington (AFP) - The United States has barred imports of meat and chicken from 14 countries, including Mexico and France, because standards of checking are considered too lax.

## Election delay

Colombo (Reuters) President Jayewardene has postponed parliamentary elections in northern and eastern Sri Lanka because of the unsettled security situation.

## Court refusal

San Francisco (Reuters) - The California Supreme Court has refused to hear a plea from a woman suffering from cerebral palsy that she be allowed to starve herself to death.

## Dates for Zhao

Peking (AFP) - China has announced the dates for Mr Zhao Ziyang's visit next month to North America. The Prime Minister will visit the United States from January 10 to 16, and Canada from January 17 to 23.



Aftermath: All that remained of a row of buildings after the gas explosion

# Gas blast and fire kills six in Buffalo

Buffalo (Reuters, AP) - Six people died in a propane gas explosion in central Buffalo on Tuesday night. Five of the dead were firemen and the sixth was a civilian.

The explosion and fire destroyed 37 houses, two blocks of flats, a church, a warehouse and several businesses. Thirteen firemen and 47 local residents were injured.

quickly to the adjacent bakery and wood-frame houses, and more than 150 firemen fought to control the flames. The blaze, so hot it melted parts of fire vehicles and covered a square mile with thick black smoke, raged out of control for more than three hours. A fireman said that when he arrived with the fourth group of fire vehicles the block was "a sea of fire."

The blast occurred in temperatures of 20°F (-6°C) at about 8.30 pm local time (1.30 am GMT on Wednesday), just minutes after three fire vehicles had arrived to check a report of a propane leak around a bakery supply building and an adjacent four-story brick warehouse.

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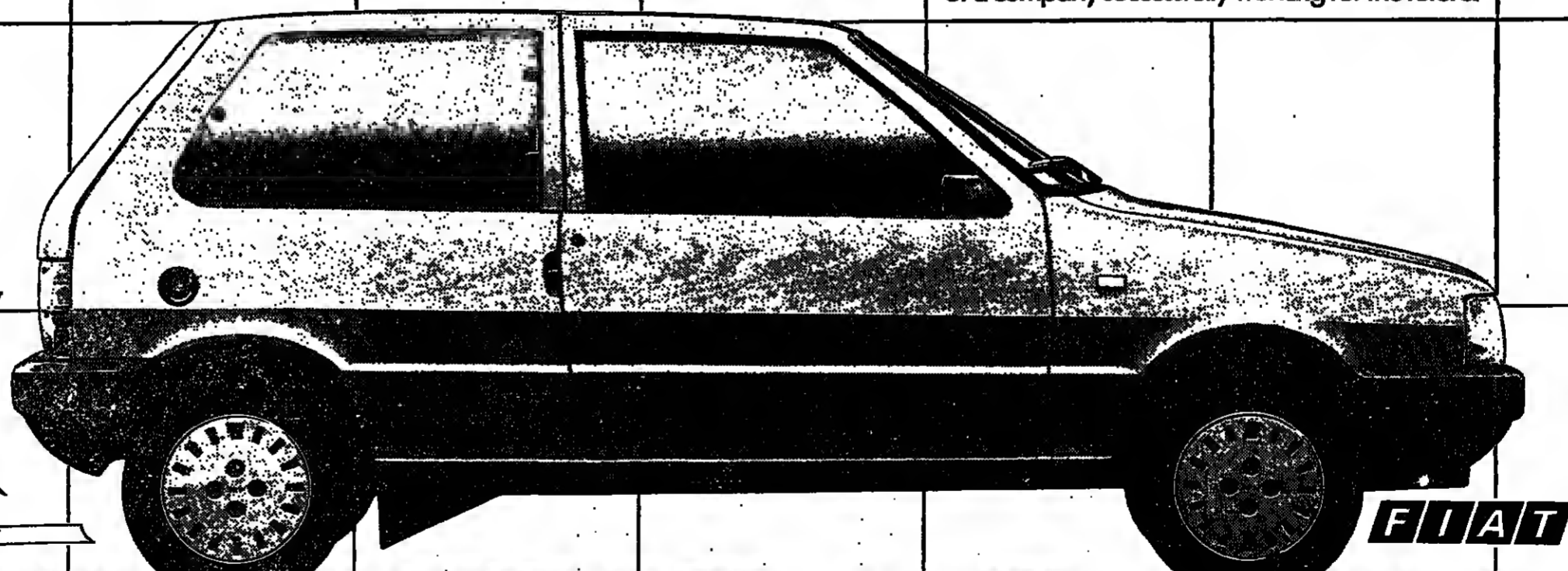


# MANY TOOK PART. UNO TOOK FIRST.

This is not a normal advertisement in which a car manufacturer boasts about his products. A jury of 53 motoring journalists from 16 European countries, including 7 journalists from Britain, have just elected the Fiat Uno "Car of the Year 1984." The criteria on which the jury based its decision were: quality of design, comfort, safety, handling and road-holding, performance, practicality and sheer driving pleasure.

Uno with its unique combination of merits surpassed all of the fourteen other new cars launched in Europe during 1983.

The Car of the Year award is Europe's highest accolade; an important achievement for Uno and for Fiat, and recognition for the commitment of a company successfully working for the future.



**FIAT UNO**  
**CAR OF THE YEAR 1984**



\*Car of the Year\* is organised by Telegraph Sunday Magazine, Quattroruote, Autovisie, L'Equipe, Stern and Vi Bilägare. For further information please contact Fiat Information Service, Dept. UCY, P.O. Box 151, London E15 2HF or phone 01-533 1312.

SPECTRUM

By the left, slow march

The Times profile François Mitterrand

When François Mitterrand was elected President of France on May 10, 1981 he stood at a rare pinnacle of achievement. He had brought to its culmination a political career which began in 1945 when he was the youngest of de Gaulle's ministers. He had also changed the whole political landscape of France. He had rebuilt the Socialist party from ruins (it took only 6 per cent of the vote in 1969) to become by far the largest party in France, with complete state power within its grasp.

personal finances: the new president would be seen to be subject to the law. At the same time he brusquely waved aside the national cult which had insisted that de Gaulle's old office in the Elysée should be preserved as a sort of national shrine; on his first day Mitterrand moved into this holy of holies and has worked in it since. He refused though to live in the regal splendour of the Elysée, preferring to commute to work from his small Paris flat. But he remained an austere figure, and he dominated his government utterly. (When ministers visit him at his country retreat in Nièvre they have, perforce, to fall into crocodile file behind Mitterrand on the long country walks that he, as an almost rhapsodic nature lover, is much given to.)



The senate (where the right has a permanent majority) also awoke from its slumber and fought several reforms to a standstill. In parliament the right showed an unmatched skill and aggression as it fought the new measures line by line. Despite his firm promises not to do so Mitterrand was soon compelled to use the various "undemocratic" procedures allowed to the president to cut short the debates.

the old masonic network of which Mitterrand himself is a leading member. By May 1982 the chickens had come home to roost. A second (10 per cent) devaluation was announced along with a first dose of economic austerity. This was clearly inadequate to deal with the soaring trade deficit - which, by January 1983, was running at a 115 billion franc annual rate. Something clearly had to be done.

moreover... Miles Kingdon

Thanks for the memory

There must be millions of my younger readers who have received word processors in their stockings for Christmas and now haven't the faintest idea what to do with them, except, perhaps, start a free giveaway comic in Stockport. The right answer is, of course, to mass produce your thank-you letters now. As an incoerce I have devised five all-purpose thank you letters which you can simply feed into your word processor and then produce as many copies as you like.

Mauroy and Delors persuaded me against it and Rocard said nothing. From spring 1982 on I wanted policies of rigour... Everybody foretold a return to growth in 1983 and to be honest I lacked the expertise to say they were wrong... It's true, we dreamt a little in 1981 and underestimated the length of the international crisis, just as I overestimated the goodwill of the Americans. I no longer expect anything of Reagan.

A very Concise Offer. If you take out a year's subscription to The Times Higher Educational Supplement, in addition to your 52 issues of THESES you will receive a copy of the international best selling Times Concise Atlas of World History (worth £12.50) absolutely free.

Rising with a new leader. Twice recently, leading political journalists have discounted the rise in the polls for the Labour Party since the "unity" conference early in October, in one instance saying "the Party has not risen nearly as much as might have been expected in the opinion polls after the election of a young and amiable new leader".

FINDINGS. A series reporting on research Public opinion. Fatal fallout: the real effect of acid rain and right, the Hollywood vision of The Day After the bomb has fallen. Kansas canvass. Eighty per cent of the British public believes that ITV was right to show the film "The Day After" on television and only 9 per cent felt it was "not right".

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 234). A 10x10 grid with numbers for starting positions. Below the grid is a list of clues for across and down words.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Against', 'Selected Letters', 'Dear Uncle', and 'Majest'. Some text is partially obscured or cut off.



BOOKS

Paperbacks: Philip Howard, our Literary Editor, makes his year's choice

For those who like their nonsense nonsensical

Picking the paperbacks of the year is like standing under Niagara with a bucket trying to catch salmon. And we do realize, don't we, boys and girls, that the selection is subjective, erratic and pig-headed. One man's meat is another man's poison. On a different day, in a different mood, the selection would be different. But here are some of the paperbacks that I should spend my Christmas book-tokens on.

Bentleys. For those who prefer to take such nonsense seriously a new series, Dent Everyman, has started reissuing such classic thrillers with Blinn Corner by Dornford Yates (Dent, £2.50) and Bulldog Drummond (Dent, £2.50). Flashman and the Redskins by George MacDonald Fraser (Pan, £1.95) ships Flabbe to the New World as a Forty-Niner on the Santa Fe trail, and then with Custer at Little Big Horn.

Horace, the Complete Odes and Epodes by W. G. Shepherd and Betty Radice (Penguin, £1.95). For crime Zomba Books have started a new series, called Black Box Thrillers, which recovers from oblivion the unobtainable pulp classics of our youth. The Cornell Woolrich volume includes The Bride Wore Black and Waltz into Darkness (both filmed by Truffaut), Resa "Window (Hitchcock) and Phantom Lady (Robert Siodmak).

Writing home Against the current

Selected Letters of E. M. Forster

This volume takes us from young "Poppy" Forster's first (dictated) note to his mother through to the black letter of Passage to India. Quite apart from my own particular interest in the Darwin/Wedgwood outfit (of which the Forsters were on the fringe), there is plenty of absorbing material here as we follow Forster to and from Surrey, Cambridge, the Continent, India (a visit with Bertie and Goldie Lowes Dickson) and Egypt (where he worked for the Red Cross and had an "adventure" with a tram-conductor). Not all the letters are addressed to his mother. The recipients ranged from Virginia Woolf to Hugh Walpole, from Sir Henry Newbolt to Siegfried Sassoon. There is a fair measure of enjoyment to be had - often, I fear, from between the lines - among the prim travogues, spinsterish whinges, catty little jokes, the occasional deeply repressed confidence and in the letters to Forrest Reid, the Ulster novelist and croquet player some astringent literary criticism.

Facing up to the hazards of language A world teeming with abundant images

Darwin's Plots By Gillian Beer

Some thinkers have so modified and constructed our ways of apprehending our world that we must discuss it in their terms, even if we have not read them, even if we wish to reject or modify their assumptions. Such was Darwin, and later, Freud. Gillian Beer's excellent book is about Darwin's ideas, as they developed. In the nineteenth century there were no "two cultures": history, science, religion, anthropology, sociology, literature appeared side by side in the same Reviews. Darwin wrote for the general civilized public. Gillian Beer begins with an examination of his language. She makes it very clear that he thought carefully about the implications of his choice of words and style.

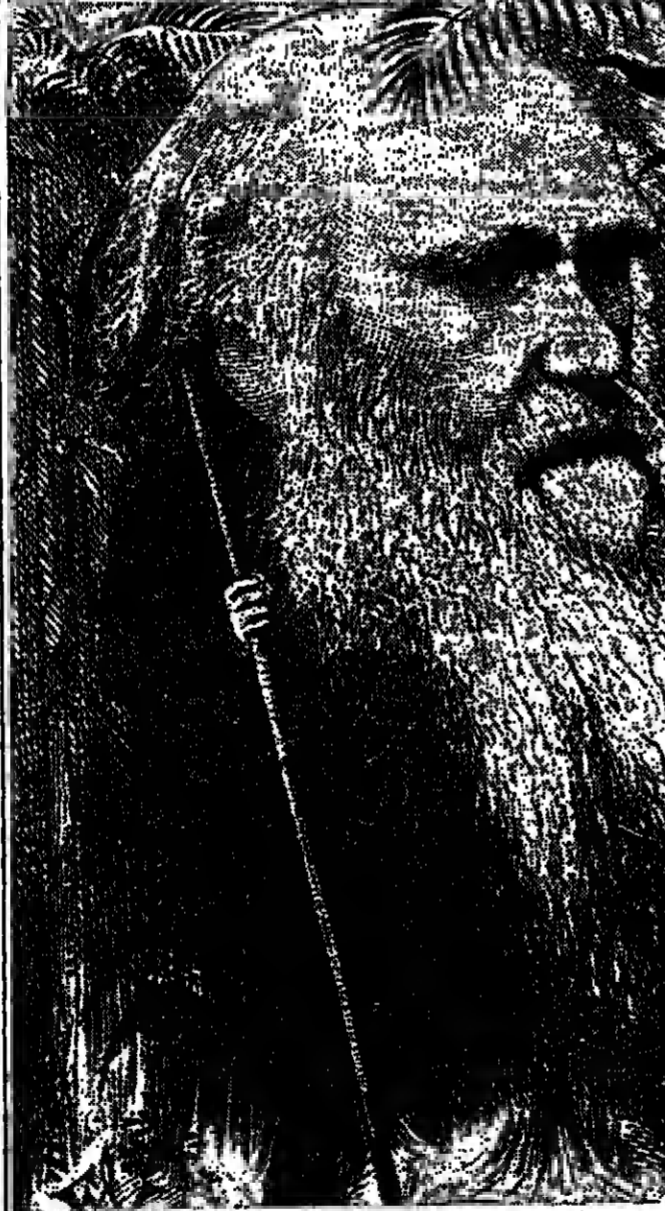
Historic rectitude Clarendon and the English Revolution By R. W. Harris

It is curious that considering the multitude of scholars who study every aspect of the Civil War in England, producing monographs on the struggle for Hull or cantankerous debates about the nature of Independency or the role of the Levellers, scarcely anyone turns to Clarendon's great history except as a source for pillage or disapproval. Compared with the vast scholarly industries that churn out books, articles and journals on Gibbon, Macaulay or even minor poets of the seventeenth century, Clarendon attracts few scholars, although most pay lip-service to his greatness. True, he has not been entirely neglected. Brian Wormald wrote a difficult, complex but highly perceptive study in 1951 (scarcely referred to by Mr Harris, maybe it was too difficult), and there is a brilliant tour de force by our best living historical essayist, Hugh Trevor Roper (if only he had written Clarendon's life rather than Archbishop Laud's), but little else.

Majestic vistas

Survey of London

Volume XXI, Southern Kensington: Brompton Edited by F. H. W. Sheppard (Athlone Press for the GLC, £45) C. R. Ashbee founded the London Survey Committee, and, as its chairman, published in 1886 its first slim monograph. Now a function of the Historic Buildings Panel of the GLC, the Survey of London has just produced Volume XXI, Southern Kensington: Brompton. It covers a wedge-shaped area from Knightsbridge in the east to Brompton Cemetery in the west, bounded by Brompton and Old Brompton Roads on the north and Fulham Road in the south.



Darwin the thinker as seen by the cartoonist "E.W."

Crime: a final selection by H. R. F. Keating Saints and sinners who keep to the point

Short days: short stories. And fine bundles of dark evening white-knives to hand. Most of them fall into that slightly curious mode the crime story seems to impose. Depending on some ingenious twist not to be spotted by the reader, they have to cram a lot of significant, or red herring, details into comparatively short lengths and their prose tends therefore to be short and informative rather than rich and evocative. There is less there, to my mind, though anyone wanting merely 10 or 20 minutes' entertainment might disagree.

Anyone mean enough to throw a party without Smirnoff will have fun throwing this streamer.

Anyone mean enough to throw a party without Smirnoff will have fun throwing this streamer. This is Harry Keating's last regular review of crime novels for The Times. He has entertained and informed us for 15 years, and has become, at an early age, the doyen of crime reviewers. If he did not quite invent, he perfected the 30-word capsule review that told you about the book and made you laugh. We shall miss him.



Clarendon: "one of Britain's greatest men"

And his career justifies such a view - a highly emotional man, quickly touched by injustice, began life as a radical, a supporter of Pym, and one who rejoiced in Strafford's death. Fortunately he possessed deeper layers of emotion and commitment than those excited by immediate politics. He believed in the law with religious fervour and particularly the law that was enshrined in Britain's Fundamental Constitution, that secular trinity of King, Parliament and People which led him to break with Pym and his extremely difficult role of keeping the Stuarts to legitimacy in political action and expression which meant a constant battle with Henrietta Maria and hectoring advice to the royal brothers. From 1641-60, Clarendon displayed a political strength and rectitude rare if not unique amongst British statesmen, and by so doing made the Restoration possible. He was still a comparatively young and vigorous man in 1660 but within so short a time he was at risk. Disgraced, he nearly met the fate of a Strafford. And the political stability which he had worked for all of his life was lost.

The first portrait that I thought was of Clarendon by Hanneman, but a far better John Plumb

Advertisement for Smirnoff vodka. The text reads: "Anyone mean enough to throw a party without Smirnoff will have fun throwing this streamer." Below the text is the Smirnoff logo and the slogan "IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH IT ISN'T SMIRNOFF".





COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duchess of Kent will present the British Broadcasting Service sporting personality of the year award at the National Army Museum on February 2.

The Duke of Kent, as patron, will visit the National Army Museum, on February 14.

The Duke of Kent will attend the annual meeting of the Fellowship of Engineering at St James's Palace on March 15.

Birthdays today

The Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, 70; Sir Richard Beaumont, 71; Mr Bernard Cribbins, 55; General Sir Robert Ford, 60; Mr H. Andrew, 71; Professor L. C. B. Gowen, 70; Mr S. M. Horby, 48; Mr Gilbert Hunt, 69; Mr G. H. Newsom, 74; Dr Magnus Pyke, 75; Mr Harvey Smith, 45; Sir Edward Stratton Williams, 62; Mr Jan Voight, 45.

Latest wills

Rear-Admiral Sir Leopold Edward Rebbeck, of Ipswich, Midhurst, West Sussex, ADC to King George VI and to the Queen, left estate valued at £319,454 net.

Family triumph at bridge contest

The Happers and Queen ladies' bridge championship, played at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Tuesday, was won for the first time by a mother and daughter combination, Mrs J. Freddy and Miss K. Freddy, of Somerset, who finished 27 points ahead of international, Mrs L. Fry and Mrs P. Murphy.

Latest appointments

Six new appointments to be Governor-General and Commander in Chief of Mauritius.



Humorous glimpses of an England past

The work of some of Britain's best loved illustrators of the past 180 years will be on show at an exhibition at the Chris Beetles gallery, Randolph Avenue, west London in February.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. T. Thistlethwaite and Miss H. C. H. North. The engagement is announced between Seymour Thomas, son of Mr and Mrs Seymour Thistlethwaite, of Street, Mill House, Petersfield, Hampshire, and Harriet Cordelia Henric, younger daughter of Sir Jonathan North, Bt, and Lady North, of Frogmore, Westonsunder-Penyard, Herefordshire.

University news

Cambridge Professor J. Heyman to be head of the department of engineering on December 12, in succession to the late Professor J. A. Sherriff.

£12,500 literary prize to be awarded in July

The United Kingdom's largest single literary prize, of £12,500, will be presented for the first time in July, the Society of Authors said yesterday.

Science report

Foil packs that could save five million children

Diarrhoea infections kill five million children a year, reducing such microbial threats as plague, smallpox or polio-viruses to less than the common cold by comparison.



DR DONALD CASKIE Help for British wartime escapees

Dr Donald Caskie, OBE, Minister for many years, who has died, helped many British servicemen in France in the Second World War to escape capture by the Germans.

FRIDRIKÉ von WEDELSTADT

Friedriké von Wedelstädt, who died in Berlin on December 24 at the age of 89, played a crucial role in restoring and strengthening ties between British and German musicians in the years after the war.

Church news

The Rev M. Bellamy, Vicar of St John, Hillingdon, London, has also been appointed Vicar of St Andrew, Hillingdon, London.

Travel awards attract thousands of inquiries

More than 1,000 people have applied to be "British cultural diplomats" overseas under a British Council award scheme.

Deserted Squelches (Save High Street, London SW11, £3.50)

MR BOB KETTLE

Mr Bob Kettle died in hospital in London yesterday only four days before he was to take up the post of president of the National Union of Railwaymen.

COL SIR THOMAS MEYRICK

Colonel Sir Thomas Meyrick, third baronet, late 15th/19th Hussars, died on December 23 at the age of 84.

BRIG JOHN BOWERMAN

Brigadier John F. Bowerman, CBE died in December, 18 aged 80.

Correction

In the obituary of Dr James Aitken published on December 8, it should have been said that he was primarily a classicist.

Commander James Buchanan Findlay, CBE, who died on December 26 at the age of 88, was a former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland.

OBITUARY

DR DONALD CASKIE Help for British wartime escapees

Dr Donald Caskie, OBE, Minister for many years, who has died, helped many British servicemen in France in the Second World War to escape capture by the Germans.

A few hours before the Germans entered Paris in 1940 he made what turned out to be a hazardous attempt to get away, walking and cycling and sheltering where he could, until he reached the Biscay coast.

When his activities were discovered by the authorities he was sent to Grenoble to take an enforced residence. Subsequently he fell foul of the Italians who imprisoned him in San Remo; they handed him over to the Germans and at this period of his life he was in daily danger of execution.

Eventually, through the efforts of a German pastor he was reprieved and his internment came to an end with the arrival of the Allied forces at St Denis which was his final place of incarceration.

For his service he was made OBE in 1945 the University of Edinburgh made him an honorary DD.

The son of Neil Caskie, he was educated at Bowmore Higher Grade School, Islay, and at Dunoon Grammar School

where he was a gold medalist. He graduated at Edinburgh University in 1924 and took his Divinity Course at New College. He became Assistant Minister at the High Church, The Mound, Edinburgh.

He then went to Egypt where he spent a year doing Archaeological and Research work for the University of Michigan. His next post was in Canada at Dauphin Plains, Manitoba. Returning to Scotland, he became assistant Minister at St. Isaac's Church, Irvine. He was invited to be Minister at St. Andrew's Church, Greta in 1931 and in 1935 he was called to the Scots Kirk, Paris.

A few days after the liberation of Paris, the Scots Kirk was opened again and Caskie's home became once more the meeting place of Scots in a foreign land. His large, comfortable flat had always been "open house" not only to Scots but also to Dutch and Hungarian Protestants who had no Church of their own in Paris.

But after five years of disuse during the war, dry rot had made the Scots Kirk building dangerous and it had to be taken down. The indomitable Minister held his services in a small private cinema near by and set about finding £20,000 for a new building. But the Scots still had their Minister.

The fact that he spoke Gaelic meant much to an exile from the Highlands. Caskie himself never an exile in Paris; it was perhaps because he made it his home that lonely Scots found a homewith him.

She also had courage. A passionate horsewoman, she was thrown when well into her eighties. Undeterred, she resumed riding a few days later. It was, she insisted, only her morning ride that kept her in trim.

She was appointed an hon MBE for her work.

MR BOB KETTLE

Mr Bob Kettle died in hospital in London yesterday only four days before he was to take up the post of president of the National Union of Railwaymen.

He was 61 and had been ill for some weeks. He was elected president by 39 votes to 38 at the union's annual conference in July.

A keen left-wing activist, he played a crucial role in the ending of Mr Sidney Weighell's reign as NUR general secretary in October 1982.

He submitted information when the union conference debated and accepted Mr Weighell's resignation after a row over the casting of the union's vote at the Labour Party Conference.

Kettle had served on the union's national executive for two three-year periods and at his death was secretary of the NUR London Transport District Council and for the Newsletter number one branch. He had also served on the Labour Party's Conference Arrangements Committee.

Born in London he was a London Transport driver. For 14 years he was a Labour councillor in Willesden and became an alderman.

He was married and had a daughter.

COL SIR THOMAS MEYRICK

Colonel Sir Thomas Meyrick, third baronet, late 15th/19th Hussars, died on December 23 at the age of 84.

The only son of Brigadier-General Sir Frederick Charlton Meyrick, second baronet, who was born on November 28, 1899 and educated at Eton and R.M.C. Sandhurst. He was Equitation Instructor at Weedon from 1922 to 1927 and at Sandhurst from 1930 to 1934 in which year he retired.

He was honorary colonel 302 Pembroke Yeomanry Field Regiment R.A. (TA) from 1955 to 1959. He was Sheriff of Pembrokeshire in 1938 and in

BRIG JOHN BOWERMAN

Brigadier John F. Bowerman, CBE died in December, 18 aged 80.

Having been commissioned with the Yorkshire Regiment in 1915, he served in the 1914-18 war before being transferred to the Duke of Connaught's Own Baluchis in 1918, following with active service in Afghanistan, Waziristan and NW Frontier until 1930.

In the Second World War he served as Chief Liaison Officer 6th Chinese Army, Inspector-General Burma Frontier Force and Chinese American Forces.

Commander James Buchanan Findlay, CBE, who died on December 26 at the age of 88, was a former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Ayrshire in 1945.

FINAN Exec... Brav... inv... Third... 6,000 jobs boost for industry

مكتبة من الأصغر

THE TIMES FINANCE AND INDUSTRY Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Brave new world for investment trusts

Next year will be the year of the investment trust - provided that the movement can market itself better and attract overseas cash. During 1983 the FT-Actuaries Investment Trust index appreciated 38 per cent compared with an increase of 23.9 per cent in the FT-A All-Share index.

Burton pays £3.5m for 93 Harry Fenton stores

The Burton Group has bought the 93-store Harry Fenton menswear chain, one of its main high street rivals, from Mr Murray Gordon's Combined English Stores.



Ralph Halpern (left) and Murray Gordon: quick deal

The deal, which took only three days in complete, means that in a single move Burton will add about 120,000 sq ft to its trading area - equivalent to twice the amount it added in the whole of last year.

Studd shops in the chain should mean Harry Fenton was near breakeven in the year ending next month. The likelihood of better results means that the announcement yesterday came as a surprise to the market.

become competitive and its ships would need heavy investment to survive. He said that f6m would have to be invested over the next two years in increase the number of Studd ships from 10 in about 40. During this period there would be little real profit.

London and Liverpool chief quits

Mr Jeffrey Bonas has resigned as chief executive of London and Liverpool Trust, the troubled pub video and photocopying leasing company.

Inflation measures 'threaten recovery'

Recession is the inevitable consequence of policies to reduce inflation, and attempts to squeeze inflation further are likely to prove incompatible with continuing recovery, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development says in a study just published.

Success for maritime tip-off fund

A team of international trade crime investigators was told yesterday that the sinking of a ship, which resulted in a \$2.5m (£1.7m) insurance claim, was deliberately arranged.

Third bidder for Eagle Star?

Shareholders confused by the uncertainty surrounding the outcome of the rival bidding for Eagle Star by BAT Industries and Allianz Versicherungs might now give serious thought to the possibility that another bidder will emerge after tomorrow's deadline for bidding set by the Takeover Panel.

Logic in £2.18m US deal

Logic, the computer software house, yesterday announced its first takeover deal since it came to the stock market in October.

Stenhouse offer terms extended

Reed Stenhouse, which is bidding £53m for its Glasgow-based parent company, Stenhouse Holdings, yesterday extended its offer terms until January 11 and declared that they are final terms.

Stenhouse offer terms extended

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NEWS IN BRIEF

6,000 jobs boost for industry

The number of jobs in manufacturing industry rose in October for the first time since the recession began in mid-1979, according to figures published yesterday in the Department of Employment Gazette.

Battle over Theakston's heads for High Court

Battle for control of T and R Theakston, the Yorkshire brewer famed for its high strength Old Peculier beer, now seems likely to be decided in the High Court.

Talbot faces split from parent group

French shadow on Ryton's future

Armed riot police stood guard last night outside the strike-torn Talbot plant at Poissy, on the outskirts of Paris, as management, unions and workers planned their next moves in a bitter, long-running dispute.

Pennzoil in \$1.6bn offer for Getty stake

New York (NYT) - The Pennzoil Company jumped into the family feud that has shaken the Getty Oil Company on Tuesday night by offering to buy 16 million shares of the West Coast oil producer for \$100 each.

Base Lending Rates

Table with columns for bank names and interest rates. Includes ABN Bank, Barclays, Citibank, etc.

Markets celebrate

As 1983 draws to a close, world stock markets continued to scale new heights. Yesterday, it was the turn of the Frankfurt 'Bourse' which bettered its previous best, set 23 years ago, with a rise of 10.9 on the Commerzbank Index to 1,044.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Table listing stock exchange indices for FT Index, FT All Shares, Nikkei Dow Jones, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table listing currency exchange rates for Sterling, Dollar, etc.

INTEREST RATES

Table listing interest rates for Domestic rates, Euro-currency rates, etc.

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks remained lower in moderate early trading yesterday with about 41 million shares traded.

Investors take a break

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Dec 12. Dealings end, Today, Contingent Day, Dec 30. Settlement Day, Jan 9.

It has been a bumper year for the equity market, so investors decided to rest on their laurels yesterday and enjoy the extended Christmas and New Year break.

The FT Index closed 0.6 up at 775.6 - just 0.6 short of the record high, achieved last week - and around 30 per cent up on the closing index of 598.9 set on January 4, this year.

Much of the improved sentiment stemmed from Wall Street's overnight 13-point improvement, although turnover was pitifully low with stock shortages responsible for many of the price rises.

Leading shares again attracted what interest remained with US enthusiasm responsible for a 10p lead in BTR at 429p, while Distillers added 2p to 238p on Saturday's article in The Times suggesting that a mystery buyer had picked up about 4 per cent of the shares.

Mr Jimmy Gulliver of Argyl Group tipped as a possible bid candidate said "I do not own a single share in Distillers".

On the oil spot market in Rotterdam prices rose 50 cents above the official Opec levels

giving some long awaited support for oil shares. BP stood out with 6p rise to 401p, while British added 2p to 195p, Clyde

The decision by Imperial group to preempt a possible Budget increase and raise prices of most of its brands by up to 2p a pack - just a couple of months after its last increase - has grabbed the imagination of most analysts.

Petroleum 3p to 113p, Laseco 7p to 277p, Shell 5p to 561p and Ultramar 3p to 612p.

Among the second liners Pict Petroleum hardened 18p to 151p on publication of the annual report and accounts.

Glits failed to hold up to earlier gains of up to £1, despite

the pound making further improvements against the dollar on the foreign exchange which it closed 55 points up at \$1.4350. In longs the rises extended to 50p by the close, but at the shorter end dealers reported nervous selling after hours resulting falls of up to £1/16.

Over on the Unlisted Securities Market shares of Federated Housing were unchanged at 50p after reaching agreement with the Crouch Group to develop the bulk of the residential development interests owned by Crouch.

The 16-month agreement is worth £4.6m to Crouch which will receive to cash in instalments with the balance due in 1985. The deal is expected to greatly boost Federated's present operation. In return The Meyer family, which control Federated has agreed to sell Crouch 1.8 million shares in the

company amounting to 20 per cent. This reduces the Meyer stake from 55 per cent to 43.8 per cent.

The board of Electronic Machine Rentals is worried by the recent surge in the share price. Yesterday it issued a statement stating it knows of no reason for the rise. The shares added 6p to 78p.

Hales Properties, the Birmingham-based property development dealing company, is in takeover talks. The group's

share price leapt 20 per cent to 100p after it announced it was in talks with a mystery suitor. At this level the group is valued at £2.8m. The Wesleyan & General Assurance has 25 per cent stake.

Refuge Assurance has increased its stake in Leopold Joseph, the exclusive merchant bank which is 26 per cent owned by two German banks, from 8.75 per cent to 10.65 per cent.

A spokesman for Refuge said there was no particular significance in the increased shareholding. "We think that merchant banks, generally, are a good investment at present, given the changes that are going on in the City. Leopold Joseph has been left behind in the recent run up of the sector", he said.

Shares of Leopold Joseph closed unchanged at 308p.

Epicure Holdings, headed by Mr Reg Brealey, chairman of Sheffield United Football Club, has increased its stake in The London Pavilion by picking up 8,600 shares amounting to 6.6 per cent of the equity. Epicure closed steady at 367p.

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for issue name, price, and other details.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and other details.

Table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

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THE TIMES 1000 1983/84. The World's Top Companies. Full statistical details and addresses: UK, Europe, USA, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Singapore, etc.

Table with columns for company name, price, and other details.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing Sterling spot and forward rates for various locations like New York, Hong Kong, etc.

Money Market

Table showing Money Market rates for various currencies and terms.

Other Markets

Table showing Other Markets rates for various currencies and terms.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various locations.

Euro-\$ Deposits

Table showing Euro-\$ Deposits for various terms and locations.

Gold

Table showing Gold prices for various locations.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table showing Financial Trusts for various companies.

INSURANCE

Table showing Insurance rates for various companies.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table showing Investment Trusts for various companies.

PROPERTY

Table showing Property prices for various locations.

PLANTATIONS

Table showing Plantations prices for various locations.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table showing Miscellaneous prices for various items.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, possibly a page number or reference.

APPOINTMENTS

New Year change at Fisons

Fisons: Mr J. S. Kerridge has been appointed deputy chairman and chairman-designate...

Mr Alan K. Batterbury has been promoted to director of sales and marketing...

Mr R. T. Edleston, Mr D. A. Platts and Mr E. N. Langley will join the partnership in January...

Mr David Pirie, a general manager of Lloyd's Bank, has been made a non-executive director...

Mr John G. Adams has joined the board as a non-executive director...

Mr Alan H. C. Collis has become chairman with Mr H. W. G. Stamper as chief executive...

Mr Stewart Wrightson (Reinsurance Brokers) has joined the board of Golding Stewart Wrightson...

Mr Henry V. White-Smith has been elected chairman.

Marketing and Advertising: Torin Douglas Airports Authority prepares to unfold its wings

The definition of an airport as a shopping centre with parking for aeroplanes is acquiring a fresh meaning as the British Airports Authority comes to the country's most important retailers...

The BAA has embarked on a big expansion on its retail side. It will be formalizing this in the New Year with the setting-up of a new marketing arm...

On the aircraft side, the BAA made a pre-tax loss of £24.5m, while its commercial side showed a profit of £63.1m...

The formation of British Airports Trading - with a staff twice the size of the BAA's commercial division - is designed to produce even better figures...

He says: "The potential is enormous, and not just in duty free, which is what most people think of as the airports' commercial area..."

Mr Blacher assumed the new post of commercial development director this year after 19 years marketing for Carreras, Rothmans and Thomas Cook...

Mr Blacher regards as crucial: though the airports already sell an enormous quantity of some items - the BAA's million bottles of perfume a year make it the biggest seller of perfume in Britain...

There is another, less obvious, opportunity for promotions which will be introduced in the New Year...

BRITISH AIRWAYS TURNOVER

Table with columns for Traffic Income, Commercial Income, and Miscellaneous Income for 1982 and 1981/80.

COMMERCIAL INCOME

Table with columns for Catering, Advertising, Car Hire, Public car park, and Other.

RENTS AND SERVICES

Table with columns for Rents and Services.

MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

Table with columns for Miscellaneous Income.

TOTAL COMMERCIAL INCOME

Table with columns for Total Commercial Income.

giving people £2 off perfume if they spent £10 on drink and tobacco lifted perfume sales by almost 80 per cent...

Mr Blacher says: "There is a huge potential for such promotional activity. How many other retailers have their non-buyers sitting outside the shop for half an hour at a time, waiting to be addressed?"

It is not just duty-free sales which can benefit. On the catering side, a Beaujolais Nouveau promotion last month trebled wine sales in some airports...

There is another, less obvious, opportunity for promotions which will be introduced in the New Year...

Every other area of commercial activity is being studied. Better quality catering - with a wider choice of places to eat - is being introduced...

The threat is still some way off. But it gives another reason why the BAA should be developing the entire range of its commercial activities...

So far, the BAA is funding the campaign. But once it has proved successful, it may well ask companies to contribute the cost...

The promotions, handed by two specialist firms, Ingram Group Promotions and Inter-Group Promotions, have also boosted sales.

In the summer, a voucher giving people £2 off perfume if they spent £10 on drink and tobacco lifted perfume sales by almost 80 per cent...

Mr Blacher regards as crucial: though the airports already sell an enormous quantity of some items - the BAA's million bottles of perfume a year make it the biggest seller of perfume in Britain...

There is another, less obvious, opportunity for promotions which will be introduced in the New Year...

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Table listing various commodities like MUGGER, COFFEE, SUGAR, and their prices.

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Table listing metal prices like COPPER HIGH GRADE, STAINLESS CATHODES, and ALUMINIUM.

LONDON GOLD FUTURE MARKET

Table listing gold future market prices.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL

Table listing international financial prices like YEN, SWISS FRANC, and POUND.

Bishop's improves

Bishop's Group, the supermarket and wholesaling group which is the subject of a bid from Booker McConnell...

RTD cuts its losses

RTD Group, the Dublin-based generator manufacturer, yesterday announced that its recent history of losses continued into the first half of this year...

WALL STREET

Large table listing Wall Street stock prices for various companies like AMF Inc, AMR, and others.

Large table containing financial data, authorized units, and insurance funds across multiple columns.

CRICKET

Pressure on umpires as England face a barrage of bouncers

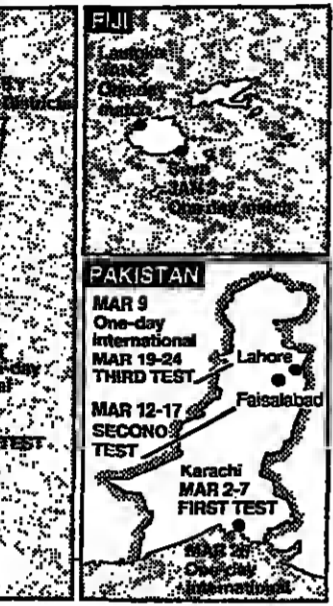
By Derek Hodgson

Only umpires will now regulate the bowling of bouncers in cricket world-wide. England's attempts to impose a limited number per over have been postponed and the question of whether the bowling is intimidatory now reverts to the umpires, as specified in the laws.

The England players, who depart on their winter tour today, are in a difficult position for which they are responsible. The one-bouncer-per-over rule to which they have become accustomed in domestic cricket has, they believe, slowed their reflexes to such an extent that they have become a much easier target for the pace attacks of Australia and West Indies.

A firm definition of intimidatory bowling can be expected from England's senior umpires. But how will lesser officials cope with an incessant barrage of bouncers, especially those aimed at the batsman from round the wicket, tactics now being used by Malcolm Marshall in India?

How will England's batsman cope with Hadlee in New Zealand, where the umpires are reported to be often as green and uneven as the pitches? Or with Imran Khan in Pakistan - assuming the great player is fit to bowl fast - where the umpires are said to be rather less balanced and judicious than their Indian colleagues? One would have hoped that the world's authorities would have been seeking to reinforce a law that is difficult to administer rather than put extra pressure on the human eye and judgment.



England in 1985, would be Willis's most welcome legacy to his successor. If Dilley and Cowans can return from this tour as fully-fledged international fast bowlers and if Foster can enlarge and improve upon his already formidable virtues of line and bounce, then Willis's days as the lone ranger, like Alec Bedser before him, will be over.

Ian Botham, fresh from his attempts to terrorize Scunthorpe United's opponents, is reported to be fitter than for some time - always good news for England - and the presence of the two spinners, Marks and Cook, means that England could, if they chose, once more field a fully-balanced Test attack. At some point on this tour, as on every one since 1978-79, someone somewhere will wish for Edmond's skills.

Records of England tour party in Test matches

Table with columns: Player, First cap, M, I, NO, Runs, HS, Ave, 100, 50, Ct, St, Balls, Runs, Wkts, Ave, Best, Swi, 10wM. Lists records for players like Botham, Cook, Cowans, Dilley, Foster, Gower, Hadlee, Marshall, Taylor, Willis.

Yallop makes silk out of tatters

From Ian Brayshaw, Melbourne

A lot of water (and time) approximately 15,000 miles (and two years and a half) has flowed since the Edgbaston Test match of 1981.

At Birmingham during the 1981 Australian tour Kim Hughes felt it necessary to shield his partner, Graham Yallop, from the fast bowling of Bob Willis. At the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday Yallop had the major share of a record-breaking stand, with Hughes that went a long way towards making Australia's position safe after three days of this fourth Test against Pakistan.

Such have been the repairs to the career of Yallop since that humiliating experience at Edgbaston that after his superb innings of 173 not out yesterday, his highest Test score, many pundits were making the large claim that he is now the best batsman in Australia. Certainly the figures support the claim.

When his score reached 166 his total of runs in first-class games for the season topped 1,000. He is in some illustrious company. The only other players to achieve the feat of scoring 1,000 runs in first-class cricket are Bill Brown (1925-27), Herbert Sutcliffe (1932-33), Bob Simpson (1963-64) and Geoff Boycott (1970-71).

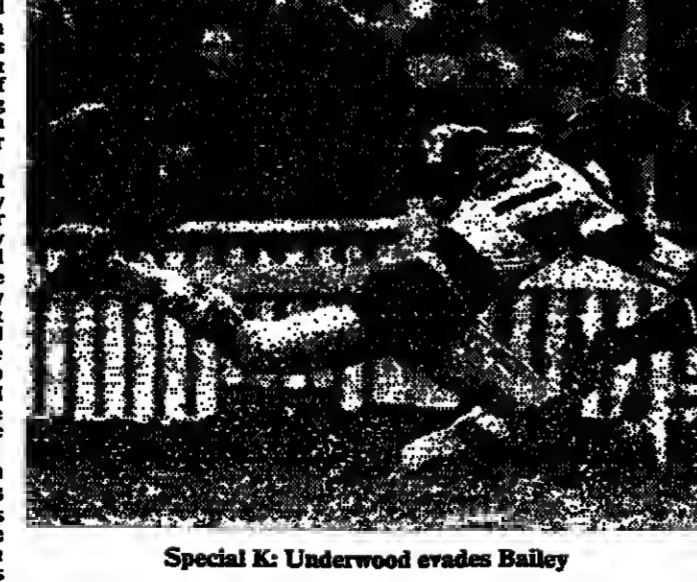
RUGBY UNION

The winning ways of Leicester's flirts

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Leicester were outweighed at the scrumline but, thanks to his credit, took all his own ball and gathered an additional heel from Dupont. The French hooker was also in some trouble with his lineout throwing.

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Underwood, who scored, Davies kicked a penalty and Gargan scored his try. Few minutes were nipped and tucked. Here looked a penalty and Davies, from touch, converted Holdstock's try to make the difference one point before Cusworth, with the last kick of the match, dropped a 30-metre goal and Leicester were home to the delight of the capacity 17,000 crowd.

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The style is the man: Gavaskar, record Test century-maker

Gavaskar overtakes Bradman

Madras (Reuter) - Sunil Gavaskar completed one of the most memorable days of his illustrious cricket career when he steered India to safety in the sixth Test match against West Indies and overtook Sir Donald Bradman as the leading Test century-maker.

India, who started the shortened fourth day at 69 for four in reply to West Indies' total of 313, reached 262 for six and seem certain to force a draw.

Gavaskar, aged 34, remained unbeaten for almost seven hours to reach 149, his thirtieth Test century. He also shared a record-breaking partnership of 170 with Shastri, the highest for India's sixth wicket against West Indies.

Little master's huge tribute to the power of concentration

Sunil Gavaskar achieved in Madras yesterday perhaps the most coveted of all individual cricketing records. He scored his thirtieth Test century, one more than Sir Donald Bradman and a number which represents a degree of courage, skill and application that can only be marvellous.

No matter that Bradman's 29 hundreds came in only 80 innings and that Gavaskar's 30 have taken him 174. Bradman was a freak. "Sunny" is a great player and an ornament to the game", Bradman said recently, and that must rate as the ultimate tribute.

Test cricket has become a meaner game than when Bradman played it. In Bradman's amazing career, which spanned from 1927 until 1948, the bodyline series was the exception which proves the point. For the rest of those years it would hardly have occurred to batsmen to wear helmets. Today, almost as often as not, it would be folly for all but a very few not to.

In 1930, against England at Headingley, the Don scored 309 runs off his own bat in a single day. Even in 1958-59, when I asked him how many he thought he might make in a day with the game as it was then being played, against the England attack of Statham, True-

FOOTBALL

Bamber gives Coventry concern

Dave Bamber, the Coventry City forward underwent an operation yesterday in the hope of discovering the cause of a mysterious blood illness. He had surgery on a swelling of his shin, which is an early symptom of an attack.

Bamber's fellow forward, Terry Gibson, Coventry's leading scorer with 12 goals, also missed last night's league match at Nottingham Forest with an ankle injury. He will be out for two weeks.

Everton's problems are even worse having scored only 11 goals in the league this season and without a goal in any of their last three games. They have an injury crisis. The latest victims are Johnson and Heath with ankle injuries and Harper with a thigh problem.

YACHTING

Little joy for Britain

With the wind having eased to between 10 and 15 knots, and moving towards the east, the competing in the Sydney to Hobart race were having a more comfortable passage across the Tas Strait yesterday, than the rough conditions they had experienced in the last 36 hours of the race.

TENNIS

Sixth seed goes out

Sarah Longbottom, the sixth seed, was yesterday defeated 6-7, 7-6, 6-3 by Clare Wood, of Sussex, in a match which stretched to three second days of the Christmas tournament at Queen's Club (Louis Meir writes).

FOR THE RECORD

SNOW SKATING ALBA-AT: Speed Skaters 10,000 metres: Kasper 13 min 54.81 sec (national record). The performance of A. Babin in the men's 1500 metres at Tuesday's meeting was not a world record but a national record.

SNOW REPORTS

Table with columns: Location, Depth (cm), State of snow, Weather, Wind, Visibility. Lists reports for various locations like Avoriaz, Davos, Flaine, etc.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FA TROPHY: Third qualifying round: Hampton v Woking (7.30). FA YOUTH CUP: Boreham Wood v Welling v Cambridge United.

Special K: Underwood evades Bailey

Underwood, who scored, Davies kicked a penalty and Gargan scored his try. Few minutes were nipped and tucked. Here looked a penalty and Davies, from touch, converted Holdstock's try to make the difference one point before Cusworth, with the last kick of the match, dropped a 30-metre goal and Leicester were home to the delight of the capacity 17,000 crowd.



David Miller looks back on year of surprises over land and sea

When beauty triumphed over the beast



Kapil Dev with the cup of surprises after beating West Indies at Lord's, and (below) Alan Bond with the cup overhanging after Australia's victory in the America's Cup.

My father would strongly have urged Mrs Worthington not to put her son on the sporting stage...

track, the four times world judo champion Yamashita, the best footballer of Juventus and Platini...

If Hagler's predictable distraction of Tony Sibson was as ferocious as the snowstorm which swept across New England...

in the autumn. The Aladdin's lamp of professional rugby union hovered in the wings...

should have to be persuaded to play for England. It is a pity that the incident between a railway clerk and Croft...



Carl Lewis, a legend in his making, long-jumping to victory at Helsinki, while (below) Mary Decker, often plagued by injury, takes the lead in style at the same meeting.



Alan Bond with the cup overhanging after Australia's victory in the America's Cup.

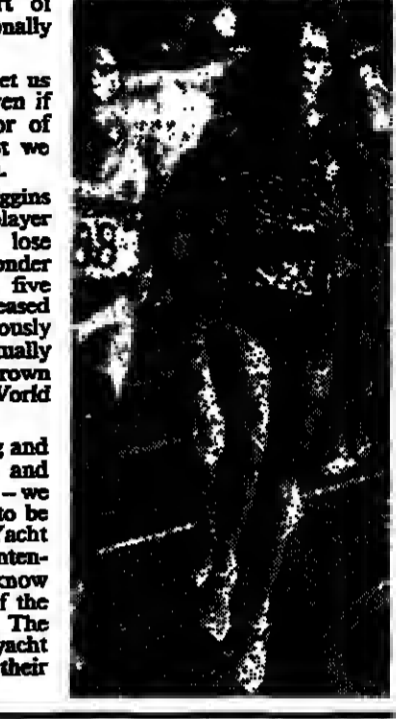
It was offered a good year in 1983, even if the South African controversy was its Machiavellian path across political and social teats...

And neither category includes the almost anonymously achieved, near-supernatural capture of the land speed record by Richard Noble...

Brighton should have won with almost the last kick of the Cup Final, but Manchester United ran away with the replay...

Headlong If there was no evidence of drugs in Helsinki, the Americans, Cubans and others ran along into trouble...

Winning is not everything. Higgins is the most engaging snooker player because he is as likely to lose spectacularly as to win...



Carl Lewis, a legend in his making, long-jumping to victory at Helsinki, while (below) Mary Decker, often plagued by injury, takes the lead in style at the same meeting.

Cut A Dash sparks a double for the queen of Fontwell

Dina Smith, the queen of Fontwell Park, returned there in radiant triumph yesterday, having temporarily abdicated to produce her most prized winner yet...

last race you might have thought that he, too, had taken Fontwell by storm. In fact, the afternoon was, by his standards, a disaster.

story of Bob Champion at Plumpton this afternoon when Army Council can provide him with his first winner in the Queen Mother's colours...

It had appeared that we were witnessing a disaster of a much more tragic sort when Seymour Lady, having completed the course riderless, crashed through the rails before the final fence...

Winners on course for Aintree

Rupertino and Magic Tipp looked the winners in the 1984 Grand National line-up by winning yesterday's handicap chases at Warwick and Newcastle respectively.

Plumpton

1.0 AUDD LANG SYNE HURDLE (Div 1; novices; 2890; 2m) (10 runners) 1.00-12 GYPEREY LIA (7) (Mrs S Waddy) P Waddy 5-11-4...

Improving Four Plus lives up to his name

Four plus, successful in his four previous starts over hurdles, lived up to his name at Leopardstown yesterday when he extended his winning sequence to five with a Michael McGrath, his co Waterford trainer, still plans to run him.

Gerry Doyle, who ran well for a long way yesterday, reappears today over a more suitable journey when carrying top weight in the three-mile Joe Donnelly Handicap Hurdle.

The star attraction, though, will be the reappearance in the Joe Donnelly flat race of Snow Fox, rated by many good judges as the outstanding National Hunt prospect in Ireland.

Stratford-upon-Avon

1.0 Highland Clipper, 1.30 Riva de Good, 2.0 Barrier Reef, 2.30 Royal Merc, 3.0 Crowning Moment, 3.30 Norfolk Realm.

Fontwell results

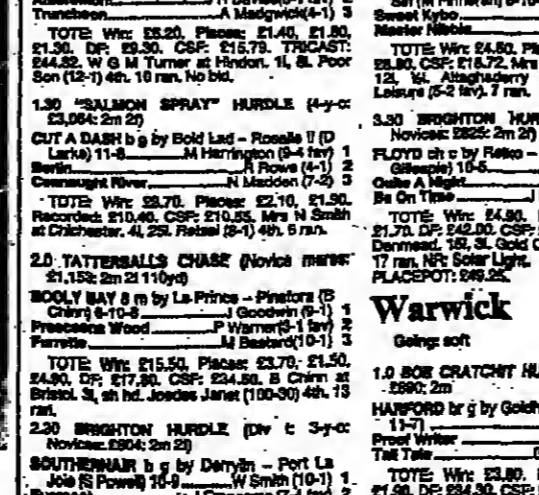
1.0 TOTTENHAM CHASE (Selling; handicap; £1,250; 3m 110y) 1.00-12 GYPEREY LIA (7) (Mrs S Waddy) P Waddy 5-11-4...

Warwick

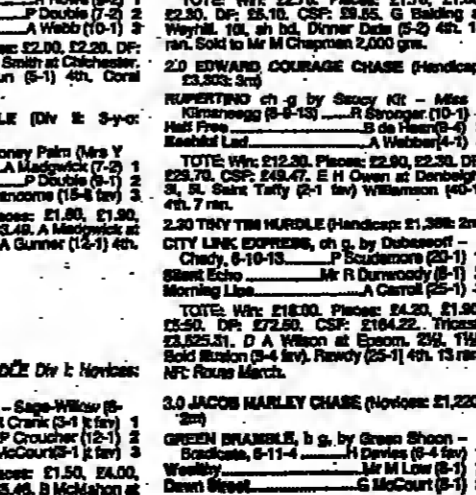
1.0 BOB CRATCHIT HURDLE (Div 1; Novices; 2890; 2m) 1.00-12 GYPEREY LIA (7) (Mrs S Waddy) P Waddy 5-11-4...



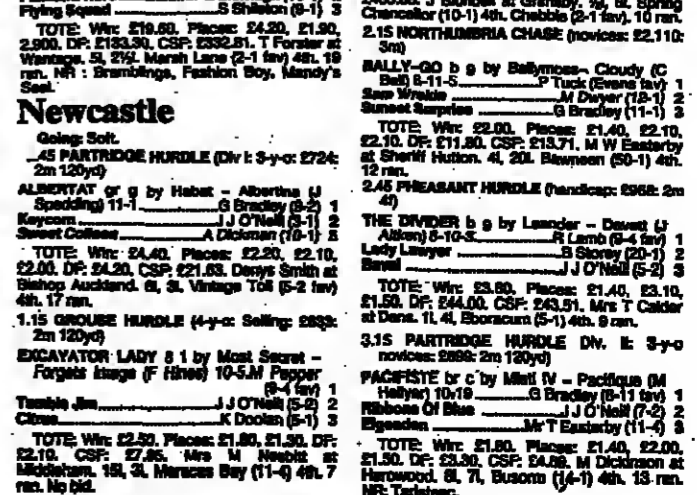
Plain Sailing: Cut A Dash (Mark Harrington) jumps the last clear of Berin (Richard Rowe) in the Salmon Spray Hurdle (Photograph: Chris Cole)



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TENNIS

Australia's success gives Fraser his greatest day

Melbourne, (Reuter) - Australia won the Davis Cup for the twenty-fifth time yesterday with a crushing performance of power, speed and accuracy from Pat Cash...



Cash: a player who showed his talent

'In 1973 we had the best players in the world - Newcombe, Laver, Rosewall,' he said, 'I didn't have to be very good to look after them.'

BASKETBALL

Perilous draw for English clubs

By Nicholas Harting

English clubs have contested the last two finals of the World Invitation Club championships, but there is a danger that by the time the first round of the seventh Philipps-sponsored event is completed at Crystal Palace tonight...

GOLF

Prize-money totals £3.5m for 1984

Record prize-money of £400,000 will be on offer in the 1984 Open Championship during the week ending August 14...

Continent, 21-22 June 1 English seniors championship, 23-24 June 2 Open Championship, 26-27 June 3 Manchester women's classic, 28-29 June 4...

DEATHS

ALEX SMITH - On December 28, 1983, at the Norfolk Hospital, Heli, Norfolk...

DEATHS

EILEEN DORRIS - On December 28, 1983, at her home, 14, St. James' Road, Dublin...

DEATHS

MELVILLE - In the early hours of the morning of December 28, 1983, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast...

DEATHS

HOLDEN - On December 28, 1983, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

DEATHS

STEBBINGS - In her sleep on December 28, 1983, at her home, 14, St. James' Road, Dublin...

WALLACE - On December 28, 1983, at his home, 14, St. James' Road, Dublin...

WATKINS - On Monday, 19 December, 1983, at his home, 14, St. James' Road, Dublin...

WOOLES - On 24th December, peace be upon the soul of Mrs. Aileen WOOLES...

WILKINS - On December 28, 1983, at his home, 14, St. James' Road, Dublin...

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International Personnel Secretary c.£9,000. An American company, based in S.W. London is seeking a secretary for the International Personnel Director...

VIEW ON THE PARK. The two young directors of a shipping company named First View Park are looking for a secretary who really wants to be involved in the running of this small friendly company...

MEMORIAL SERVICES. WEST J. A Memorial Service for Mr. James West, 82, The Green, Wexford, Co. Wick. Saturday, 1st Jan. 1984, 12 noon, at St. John's Church, Wexford...

NEW YEAR IN MALAGA. £79 FLIGHT ONLY. Depart 20 Dec. 6.15 am to Malaga. Return 27 Dec. 10.45 am from Malaga. Includes return airfare, hotel, transfers, breakfast, taxes, insurance, visas, airport taxes, and gratuities.

LANZAROTE SPECIAL OFFERS. 12.19.19 Jan. self catering accom. 7 nights. 1st night free. Includes return airfare, transfers, breakfast, taxes, insurance, visas, airport taxes, and gratuities.

LANZAROTE. Selection of private villas and apartments to suit individual requirements. All villas and apartments are fully furnished and offer a high standard of comfort and convenience.

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EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS. The Old Course Golf, Country Club & Hotel St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland. £10 million has recently been spent to upgrade the Old Course Golf, Country Club & Hotel to deluxe standards...

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. £10 million has recently been spent to upgrade the Old Course Golf, Country Club & Hotel to deluxe standards comprising accommodation for 300 persons, leisure, health and beauty facilities...

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KEEP FIT ASSOCIATION. Invites applications for the post of National Secretary to be responsible for the Association of the Handicapped and Disabled in Scotland. The Association should preferably have a minimum of 10 years experience in the field of social work...

BLADON LINES. Full length simulation for coal. Reversible crushing plant, all cast iron, heavy duty, built from heavy plate, all wear parts cast in place. Capacity 100 t/h.

WANTED. HOUSE CONTENTS, antiques, large quantities of books, records, pictures, carpets, etc. Must be removed to a storage unit. Cash for cash.

SKILS ARCS THE SKILWAY WAY. Join the Skilway Club. We offer a wide range of skilway activities for all ages. Book now for the 1984 season.

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